involvement of international organisations like ILO, UNICEF etc in child welfare efforts in the carpet industry, introduction of "Kaleen" label on export of carpets by Carpet Export Promotion Council as a hall mark of commitment of exporters for producing carpets without child labour; strengthening of enforcement measures etc.

Textile Mills in Tamil Nadu

2468. SHRI N. THALAVI SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of textile mills in Tamil Nadu and their capacity for production, as on date;

(b) what is the required capacity to meet the demand and the funds required; and

(c) the specific steps taken to achieve the desired results, including participation of the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) As on 31.12.1998, there were 829 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills in Tamil Nadu with the following installed capacity:—

Spindles	Rotors	Looms
12093525	98241	5770

(b) and (c) Most of the cloth production is in the private sector and Government do not provide funds for running the private sector mills. The per capita availability of cloth in the country has increased from 17.30 Sq. metres in 1980-81 to 30.78 Sq. metres in 1997-98. Per capita consumption, on the other hand, has increased from 13.43 metres in 1980 to 14.40 metres in 1993. Various steps have been taken by the Government to increase production and availability of cloth to the people including simplification of procedures for obtaining industrial license, removal of many controls and regulations, and bottlenecks in export promotion. All these measures contributed to the increase in production of cloth. Recently, the Government have approved the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme to offer interest reimbursement to eligible units through nodal Financial Agencies to upgrade technology.

Sick Textile Units

2469. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick textile units in the country;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to announce a package for restart of these sick textile units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) As per the information made available by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), the number of textile mills registered with BIFR is 399 as on 31.1.99. (b) and (c) Government has established Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 to tackle problems of sickness. Government has also set up an Expert Committee to have a fresh look at the existing Textile Policy. One of the terms of references of the said Committee is to review the measures taken so far for tackling sickness in the textile industry and to make suggestions for improving the economic viability of the textile industry as also to identify steps which would be necessary to prevent and tackle sickness in the industry, including the need for structural adjustments through re-deployment of labour and capital.

Enquiry Against Director (Handicrafts), Eastern Region

2470. SHRI ROMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY:
SHRI K. M. SAIFULLAH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry is being conducted against incumbent Director (Eastern Region) of the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), in respect of alleged sanctions made to non-existent NGOs, while he was at the headquarters office;

(b) whether the official also acquired flat and vehicle, without intimation and not